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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 61

Section 1

December 29, 1941

## FARM MACHINERY PREFERENCES GEARED TO FOOD FOR FREEDOM

New York Journal of Commerce, December 29:

In efforts to restrict materials available for new farm machinery to an average of 83 percent of those used for similar purposes in 1940 and to permit use of materials for repair parts at an

average rate of 150 percent of the 1940 level, Donald M. Nelson, director of priorities, has announced a program to make materials available for farm equipment to carry out the Agriculture Department food-for-freedom program in 1942.

The Division of Civilian Supply, after consultation with the USDA, took the view that adequate repair of existing machinery is the first step in attainment of the 1942 agricultural goals. The limitation order covers the period from November 1, 1941, to October 31, 1942, and as soon as producers receive copies of the preference rating order, they may apply the new rating to supplies.

Bearing in mind 1942 food production needs, some examples of the rate at which farm machinery can be manufactured, compared with 1940 output, follow: Horse or tractor drawn potato planters, 58 percent; grain binders, 75; rice binders, 100; hay press combines (windrow pick-up) 353; peanut pickers, 208; steel stock tanks, 52; wooden stock tanks, 351; steel stock pens, 50; metal grain bins, 11; silos, 90; horse shoes and horse shoe nails, 90; wooden wheelbarrows, 100; steel (tubular) wheelbarrows, none; subsoil plows, 50; walking plow type potato diggers, 100; windmill pumps, 100; small incubators, 60; power dusters, 103.

The farm equipment industry includes about 1,200 concerns, employs about 95,000 persons, and is largely concentrated in the Middle West. About 97 percent of the total weight of all farm equipment is in steel and cast iron. Copper is used principally for tractor radiators and farm water systems. Aluminum is used in milking machines, and rubber is used for tractor tires.

## U.S.-CUBAN TRADE PACT RATIFIED

AP report from Havana in Washington Star, December 28: The Cuban Senate today ratified a commercial trade treaty with the United States.

The treaty granted 20 percent tariff reductions on such Cuban products as sugar, molasses, various types of tobacco, cigars, beef, and veal. Cuba agreed to reduce the tariff on such U. S. products as asphalt cement, starches, glucose, napped cotton fabrics, packing crates, vegetable oils, canned products, condiments, and various fruits.



Experiment in  
Boy Conservation

Don Wharton, in Country Gentleman, December describes the Penn State farm-boy center, near State College, started by NYA. The idea was "to bring unemployed boys together in a group, combine classwork and practical work in agriculture, and in four-month sessions arm some of Pennsylvania's youth with the rudiments of up-to-date farming..."

Early in 1940 Dean Fletcher, and Carson F. Mertz, state director of FSA gave the plan a new twist. Instead of NYA officials picking the boys from relief rolls, the FSA began picking them from hard-pressed farm families--generally FSA clients. When the center's sixth session opened last fall it was packed with genuine farm boys who wanted to farm, wanted to pick up every scrap of modern knowledge for their family farms, whether they were owned, rented or being bought with FSA loans.

Dr. Auchter  
BPI Plant  
Introduction

Dr. Eugene C. Auchter, BPI Chief, believes there are two kinds of research. To maintain what has already been accomplished, there is "defensive" research. To look into the future, we have "aggressive" research. Dr. Auchter says: "As science made our present civilization possible, I believe it will also make possible the better civilization of the future, if we keep on with aggressive research in all the sciences, natural and social."

Dr. Auchter's bureau has as one of its chief functions the introduction of new plants into the United States. Only last year, despite interrupted world communications, the Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction brought in 4,095 items collected in Persia, Afghanistan and India, including vegetables, deciduous fruits, cereals and forage crops.

Record Pig Crop  
To Meet Food  
For Freedom Goals

Secretary Wickard announces that on the basis of the semi-annual Pig Crop Report, American farmers will exceed 1942 Food-for-Freedom hog production goals, thereby virtually assuring ample pork and pork products next year for U.S., Great Britain, and other nations resisting aggression.

December report shows pig crop in 1942 may reach 97 million head--larger by 10 million head than any other pig crop on record. After allowing for normal death losses, a pig crop of this size would permit farmers to exceed by five percent their 1942 marketing goals of a little over 79 million head.

"I am pleased," Secretary Wickard said, "with the splendid response of hog producers to the Nation's call for more pork and pork products to feed our armed forces, our civilians, and our Allies. We are glad they have set their sights even higher than the goals as we would far rather have a little extra than not enough in this battle against the Axis powers."



"Pay Debt to  
Soil," Says  
Ill. Expert

Illinois Agriculture Association Record, December: "Pay your debt to your soil now, because you can afford it, and you may not be able to do so later," A. L. Lang, assistant chief of the Illinois Soil Experiment Fields, urged the annual soil improvement conference at Springfield. "That we can build up soil fertility resources is proved by 30 years' experience on our experimental fields, and by the experience of thousands of farmers. You can't beat," he said, "the time-proved plan of limestone, legumes, and phosphates."

Protein Needs  
of Dairy Cows

E. S. Savage, Cornell University, in American Miller, December: "Today by-products containing large total protein are becoming more expensive sources of total digestible nutrients than low protein feeds. We should study more closely the amount of protein that cows require. In the last few years it has been more difficult not to exceed the protein guarantees in commercial dairy feeds than to just meet these guarantees...It is suggested that for milk production feed manufacturers may well mix only two feeds, a 16 percent protein mixture and a 20 percent protein mixture. For more than 3 years the cows in the Cornell University herd have received a 16 percent protein mixture except when on experiment...There is no reason to feed high protein mixtures unless protein is exceedingly cheap."

Forestry and  
Reclamation

W. S. Rosecrans, in Conservation (Nov.-Dec.): "Wise watershed management policies cannot be carried out in single isolated areas or communities, but must be co-extensive with the watersheds and must be correlated to broad policies of land management covering the areas of both source and use from mountain top to ocean shore. The fact that there is probably not enough water in the 17 western states to irrigate more than 10,000,000 acres in addition to the 20,000,000 acres now under operation is conclusive evidence that in vast areas water is our limiting factor, and that effective policies and programs of forest and watershed management are of prime concern to all those who are interested in reclamation."

Process Saves  
Vitamin C  
in Milk

Dairy World, December: Research workers at Cornell University have almost perfected a process whereby air may be removed from milk during pasteurization. By this procedure the vitamin C content of freshly drawn milk is retained approximately 80 percent. Methods for the use of this process in the commercial milk plant are now being developed.

Production  
Credit Loans  
Increase

More farmers and ranchers are borrowing from production credit associations than at this time last year. Loans are larger and attendance at annual meetings is greater than ever before. This increased activity is attributed largely to efforts of farmers and ranchers to attain production-for-victory goals. During the first 11 months of 1941, loans amounted to \$374,000,000 compared to \$315,000,000 for the same period of 1940.



## Section 2

Apple Products  
As Feed for  
Livestock

Fruit Products Journal, December: Increasing interest is developing in feeding cull apples to livestock and should receive greater attention by both apple growers and livestock feeders, according to Frank H. Beach, Extension horticulturist, Ohio State University. Apples are given a feeding value of about 40 percent that of corn silage, and apple pomace from cider mills has an equal feeding value to corn silage.

Recent experiments at the Washington Experiment Station demonstrated that cull apples can be effectively utilized as feed for dairy cows by ensiling them with alfalfa hay in the proportion of 80 percent apples to 20 percent alfalfa. Apples can carry considerable decay and still make a palatable silage relished by livestock. Apples can be combined with a wide variety of ensilage materials and made into a succulent palatable livestock feed.

Jolting Affects  
Quality of Eggs

Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, December 17: The motor car or truck of present-day transportation may have a definite effect on egg quality, an important factor in supplying the United Kingdom with large quantities of eggs. While travelling at considerable speed over highways that are frequently rough, says the War-Time Production Series pamphlet, Conservation of Egg Quality, sharp jars and jolts occur which may result in breaking down and mixing the contents of the eggs. The membrane enclosing the yolk may rupture, allowing the yolk to mix and be churned up with the white, with the result that the product is useless.

Labeling  
for Special  
Dietary Use

Food Materials & Equipment, December 20: Regulations for labeling of foods for special dietary uses, issued by Federal Security Administrator McNutt, become effective May 18, 1942.

Included in the regulations are: Foods recommended for such conditions as disease, convalescence, pregnancy, lactation, food allergy, underweight, and overweight; foods recommended for supplementing or fortifying the usual diet with vitamins, minerals, or other dietary properties; foods recommended for certain age requirements such as infancy. The regulations are expected to promote better understanding of nutrition.

West Coast  
Cooperative  
Forest Nursery

Wood Products, December: Establishment of the Cooperative Forest Industry Nursery at Nisqually, Washington, has been announced by the West Coast Lumbermen's Association as a step toward carrying out its intention of planting a tree for every tree cut. Five million young trees a year for replanting in commercial forests of Washington and Oregon will be the initial output of the nursery. Forest landowners in the Northwest have made an initial investment of about \$200,000 in the cooperative plan. Contracts have been placed for 21,500,000 trees, representing over 80 percent of the total capacity of the nursery for the first five years.



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Section 1

December 30, 1941

## FOREST DEFENSE IMPROVED SINCE WORLD WAR I

Forest lands of the United States are now better defended against fire than ever before. Vast strides have been made since World War I in increase of forest area given fire protection and in fire control methods and equipment used. Forest Service points out fire lookout towers and Federal and State lookout stations are available in the present war for air-raided spotting stations and detection of enemy signal fires or incendiary sabotage. These mountain stations, once vulnerable to telephone line troubles, are now much less so through shortwave radios.

## SULFAMIC ACID, NEW COMMERCIAL PRODUCT

UP report in New York Times, December 30: Hay fever victims who blame ragweed as their irritant and those who get a rash from poison ivy can take some hope from reports of the uses of sulfamic acid, made to the American Chemical Society's division of physical and inorganic chemistry by Drs. M. E. Cupery and W. E. Gordon. Not only can ragweed and poison ivy be exterminated by spraying with sulfamic acid, but it also can be used for fireproofing textiles and tanning leather. The acid is being produced for the first time on a large scale, the chemists reported. Possible uses of the new commercial acid include flameproofing of insulating materials, mattresses, and clothing.

## "STREPTOTHRICIN" KILLS DISEASE BACTERIA

AP report in New York Times, December 30: New effects of parasites which kill disease germs in the same way that microbes kill man were announced yesterday at the annual meeting of the American Society of Bacteriologists. The new microbe killer, named "streptothricin," is obtained from a fungus which grows in the soil. Described by Drs. Selman A. Waksman, Rutgers University, and H. Boyd Woodruff, New Jersey Experiment Station, it is so potent that a solution of one part in one million will kill millions of deadly streptococcus germs which cause such diseases as blood poisoning, erysipelas, and scarlet fever. Tests have demonstrated the effectiveness of streptothricin in controlling the germs that cause contagious abortion of cattle, a disease transmissible to man as undulant fever.



Sweetness  
of Sugar  
Studied

Fruit Products Journal, December: Studies of the use of corn sugar and corn sirup in frozen desserts at the State Experiment Station at Geneva under A. C. Dahlberg, throw light on the relative sweetness of different sugars in relation to their concentration. "There are many sugars varying greatly in sweetness, but the consumer usually buys and thinks of beet or cane sugars which is called 'sucrose' when sugar is mentioned," says Dr. Dahlberg, in Farm Research, the station's quarterly magazine. "Milk sugar or lactose is the largest sugar crop in this country, but little of it is manufactured into a commercial product. Another large sugar crop is corn sugar or dextrose. Dextrose and malt sugar or maltose are the basis for corn sirup. In addition, large quantities of fruit sugar or levulose are consumed and small amounts of maple sugar."

Green Grass  
Silage for  
Winter Feeding

American Miller, December: The manner in which one discovery leads to another at the University of Wisconsin is illustrated by the work of Dr. Harry Steenbock and Prof. Conrad Elvehjem on connection of carotene in milk with the presence of vitamin A. The substance increased when cows were on fresh green pasture. They have attempted to make grass silage practical as a means of preserving this milk through the year.

Their experiments have been accepted by some, and about 10 percent of the silage in the state is now green grass. The demonstrated value of grass silage put Prof. Floyd Duffee to work developing a machine which would make harvesting practical. A two-purpose hay and grass silage harvester that crops grass either wet or dry has been invented.

Tomato  
Picking  
Machine

Market Growers Journal, December 15: Two growers in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, have developed a successful tomato picking machine. This year the sixteen acres of tomatoes grown by the two men were all handled by two machines. The actual removal of tomatoes from the vines, of course, must be done by human hands controlled by eyes to determine the degree of ripeness. The pickers work lying in a comfortable hammock and have only to lift a handful of tomatoes to a traveling belt just in front of them. It is not necessary to lug heavy baskets over the rows or bend up and down. The tomatoes come up the elevator and the picker eases their fall into a basket in front of him. He knows what is going into the baskets and is able to increase his grade rating by discarding defective fruit.

Argentine Wool,  
Dairy Products  
to U.S. Increase

Farm Journal, January. Argentine farmers picked up \$57,005,312 in sales of dairy products, wool, butter, and eggs to the U.S.A. during the first eight months of 1941. This was an increase, notes the National Foreign Trade Council, of \$22,000,000 over sales for the same period last year. Biggest jump was in wool, up \$13,600,000. Next largest was dairy products and casein, up \$5,200,000.



Soil Surveys  
Aid Farm  
Planning

C. E. Kellogg, Chief, USDA Soil Survey, in Fertilizer Review (Oct.-Nov.-Dec.): People are using soil maps in greatly increased numbers. Their use requires some study. The fact that many thousands of farmers are taking this trouble with satisfaction and profit is but another evidence of the trends toward scientific agriculture. Over 1,700 different soil maps have been printed, mostly on a county basis. Since the maps have literally hundreds of uses, it need only be said that they are useful where differences in the ability of the land to support crops, grasses, or trees, or to respond to treatments are important.

Poultry  
Feeding  
Methods

Hoard's Dairyman, December 25: Successful poultry farmers pay nearly as much attention to the way they feed their pullets and laying hens as they do to the kind of feeds they provide, reminds W. O. Wilson, South Dakota State College. Abrupt changing in diet causes the birds to go "off feed" and results in lower egg production and slower growth as will the use of stale feed. If a change in diet must be made, it should be made gradually over a period of a week or ten days. Many poultrymen provide only a little more feed each day than the birds can clean up. The leftovers, if clean and dry, can be mixed thoroughly with the fresh feed in the hoppers.

Corn Borer  
Treatment

Indiana Farmers Guide, December 15: The European corn borer has been slowly spreading westward in spite of suppressive measures to hold it in check. More than half the counties in Indiana have reported presence of the corn borer, and in Illinois the number of countries infested increased from 5 in 1939 to 43 this year.

Clean farming followed by planting resistant hybrids on the proper dates, according to the fertility of the land, is the best method of controlling the corn borer. Most of the damage done this year was reported in Ohio where susceptible hybrid or open pollinated corn was planted early on fertile land. Entomologists in Illinois have said there is no reason to fear any great damage from the pest in 1942.

Lime for  
Dairy Barn  
Floors

Milk Producers Review, December: The use of liming materials, especially burned and hydrated lime, on floors and gutters of dairy barns has been found beneficial by A. R. Midgley and W. O. Mueller, Vermont Experiment Station. They are reversing opinion among many agricultural workers that use of such materials liberates ammonia from manure and causes loss of nitrogen.

These specialists point out that freshly voided manure contains very little, if any, ammonia until fermentation and ammonification takes place, and since hydrated, burned, or caustic lime retards fermentation, less of the nitrogen in the form of ammonia is lost. These findings do not apply to ground lime stone.



Leaf Hoppers  
Cause Alfalfa  
Dwarf Disease

California Cultivator, December 13: Two leaf hoppers belonging to the group known as "sharpshooters" are responsible for spread of alfalfa dwarf disease, according to Dr. Byron R. Houston and Norman Frazier of the California College of Agriculture. During the past year it has been proved that these leaf hoppers carry the virus of dwarf disease from diseased to healthy plants in the process of feeding.

Dwarf disease has been a serious problem in southern California for several years and at present is destroying new alfalfa stands so rapidly they often become unproductive in their second or third season of growth. Recently it has spread to the southern San Joaquin Valley.

Farmers' Aid  
in National  
Defense

Editorial in American Agriculturist, December 20: Food is No. 1 ammunition not only for ourselves but for our allies with their vast battle line across the world. In the production of that food we need to exercise wisdom. For the most part, increased production should come from better and more intensive farming rather than from increased acreages. We should hesitate before increasing farm operations on poor land. Farmers of this nation have always made great contributions to their country in times of trial. They will do it now, but those who do the best job will be the ones who increase production through better farming methods, methods good in peace time as well as in war.

Ramie Fiber  
Production  
in Florida

Near the south shore of Lake Okeechobee, Florida machines that are in operation for the first time harvest ramie with mechanical ease, speed, and volume comparable to harvest of wheat, says Bert Livingston in Florida Grower, December. Other machines produce commercially acceptable decortication. Final processes are yielding ramie fiber with no loss of raw material and an increasing yield of by-products. These machines have been accomplishing satisfactory mass production for an extended period.

Florida's first commercially produced and decorticated ramie fiber was delivered to a manufacturer of American paper more than a year ago. From this fiber was produced paper indistinguishable from French cigarette paper produced from linen rags. Engineers in paper production have completed a survey showing that production of fine Florida ramie paper can be standardized and continued in any desired volume at one-half the cost of comparable French paper.

New Scientific  
Organization

Agriculture in the Americas, December: A new scientific organization of interest to agriculturists is the Instituto Ecuatoriano de Ciencias Naturales (Ecuadoran Institute of Natural Sciences) recently organized in Quito. Its members are anxious to collaborate with scientists throughout the Americas and invite interchange of material and publication with workers in natural sciences. The institute is headed by Prof. M. Acosta Solis, Apartado 403, Quito, Ecuador.



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Section 1

December 31, 1941

## SOIL CONSERVATION, DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT EXTENDED

Baltimore Sun, December 31: President Roosevelt has approved a five-year extension, to January 1, 1947 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, authorizing AAA farm-benefit payments and CCC price-supporting loans. The act would have expired today (December 31). Mr. Roosevelt, in a message to Congress, said he signed the bill "in view of the urgency of the need for extending" both programs and the "desirability of giving assurances at this time to producers of basic agricultural commodities."

Under the loan program, the CCC is directed to make loans at 85 percent of parity prices. Mr. Roosevelt protested addition of peanuts to the parity loan list, which includes cotton, wheat, corn, rice, and tobacco, saying there had been substantial changes in production and consumption of peanuts since the base period of 1909-14 and the loan rates on this product would be "excessive in relation to the loan rates on other commodities." He suggested the peanut loan provision be modified before Government loans are made on the crop next fall.

## DECEMBER FARM PRICES AVERAGE 99% OF PARITY

The general level of prices received by, and paid by, farmers advanced during the month ended December 15. The net result was a general average of all prices received by farmers of 99 percent of parity. Prices received rose 8 points to 143 percent of the August 1909-July 1914 average -- the highest point since January 1930. The index was 42 points above mid-December, 1940. Grains and meat animals, with a 9-point rise since November 15, made the strongest gains. Cotton prices advanced moderately. Fruit and dairy product prices were unchanged and the seasonal decline in egg prices was less than usual. Factory payrolls were about 57 percent above 1940. Farmers also were paying more for articles they bought, both for family maintenance and for production. Prices of leading farm products on December 15, when expressed as percentages of parity, were: corn, 72 percent; cotton, 91; butterfat, 87; eggs, 89; hogs, 98; and beef cattle, 125.

## CORPORATION TO BUY 1942 CUBAN SUGAR

Washington Post, December 31: Purchase of the entire 1942 Cuban sugar crop by the United States Defense Supplies Corporation was announced last night. Federal Loan Administrator Jesse Jones said the contract "will be signed in the next few days." It is believed a considerable portion of the crop will be trans-shipped to Britain and other nations under the lend-lease program. The basic minimum price of the sugar will be 2.65 cents a pound, f.o.b. Cuban port.



Homemaker Needs  
Scientific Help  
in Wartime

"Science can help us win the war on the home front as well as on the immediate field of battle," says Dr. Louise Stanley, BHE chief. "Now, more than ever before, homemakers need scientific facts to help them best adjust their families to the present emergency." The BHE program has been directed toward making such facts available, according to Doctor Stanley's annual report.

Because morale and physical fitness of a nation depend so much on good diet, BHE has redoubled its efforts to uncover practical nutrition facts. These have been released in the form of master diet plans that meet the new yardstick of good nutrition adopted this year by the National Nutrition Conference for Defense. These master plans are so arranged that they may be adapted to different parts of the country and to changing food supplies.

Electric Heat  
for Sweetpotato  
Propagation

E.C.M., in Market Growers Journal, December 15: R. H. Stewart, in a report from South Carolina Experiment Station, states electric hot beds may be economically used in the propagation of sweetpotato plants.

Studies reveal that for a 6 by 60 foot electric hot bed approximately 35 bushels of potatoes produce about 100,000 plants during the growing season, the energy used varying from 1,200 to 2,000 kilowatt hours and the cost being 30 to 35 cents per 1,000 plants where electricity costs  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 cents per kilowatt hour.

Washington  
Farmer Grows  
Belladonna

Farm Journal, January: I. C. Dirstine, of Lind, Washington, got 1,000 belladonna plants last spring from the state college at Pullman and set them out in rows two feet apart, 18 inches in the row (thinks now 24 x 30 inches would be better). He cultivated the plants just as you would any garden crop, to keep weeds down. To keep insects from eating the plants, he sprayed with a nonpoisonous insecticide (a residue of arsenic or lead would affect the purity of the product). From this small patch he harvested something like 200 pounds of dried plants which he dried on a piece of canvas draped over chairs in the house. "Ought to have a special drying house, or drier, so the crop could be cured quickly without losing the green color," he said.

1941 Record  
Fertilizer  
Consumption

Fertilizer Review (Oct.-Nov.-Dec.): A new high point in fertilizer consumption in the United States has been reached in 1941. Total tonnage for the year was moderately above 1940, which was the previous peak. This rise to a new all-time high in fertilizer use in the second year following the outbreak of war in Europe clearly indicates that there has been as yet no war-induced shortage of fertilizer materials. We can produce all the potash we need. Our domestic nitrogen production is more than double our imports.

Two possible developments might result in a tight situation in fertilizer supplies. One would be a shortage in transportation facilities. The other would be such an increase in munitions requirements for nitrogen and sulphuric acid that the supplies available for fertilizer production would be inadequate.



OPM Restricts  
Civilian Use  
of Wool

New York Journal of Commerce, December 31:  
Use of wool for civilian manufacture of worsteds, woolens, and floor coverings after the first quarter of 1942 will be drastically curtailed, probably to a top level of 30 percent of amounts used in the comparable period of 1941. Designed to conserve supplies of wool and spread work among the entire industry, this program will supplement tentative plans for the first three months of 1942 to hold total use of wool prevailing during the first six months of 1941. <sup>to 80 percent of the rate</sup> The 80 percent figure, OPM officials emphasized, includes both military and non-military uses.

Philippine  
Food Supplies,  
Reserves

Copyright report by New York Herald Tribune, in Washington Post, December 21: Nearly two years ago the Philippine Government began steps to prevent a food shortage in the Philippines due to blockade. Improved seeds, as well as technical assistance, were given to farmers during 1941. In May 1941, President Quezon authorized the National Trading Corporation to buy large quantities of canned foods in the United States. More than \$1,000,000 had been spent for this purpose when war broke out. In July 1941, President Quezon issued an order designating the Civilian Emergency Administration to import large quantities of corn free of duty for emergency distribution. In August the Government authorized the Philippine Bureau of Animal Industry to construct 18 breeding stations throughout the archipelago to make it self-sufficient in meat and eggs.

The trading corporation was intrusted with the task of purchasing all available food that can be stored. It also contracted to take the entire output of the National Food Products Corporation. The Civilian Emergency Administration some time ago announced a daily food ration for adult Filipinos in event of war; it consisted of a plateful of rice or corn, a chop of "tapa" or dried meat or 6 pieces of "tuyo" or dried fish, 3 bananas, teaspoonful of salt, tablespoonful of sugar, and table-spoonful of cocoa or coffee.

Research  
By Food  
Industry

Boston report in New York Herald Tribune, December 26: Research expenditures by food manufacturers in 1942 will average 11 percent above this year for the entire industry, with some companies planning to more than double such expenditures, said Clarence Francis, President, General Foods Corporation, on the basis of a survey by his company. He said more than 86 percent of the companies surveyed are engaged in research. Production of food in 1942 will be at the greatest volume in history, he said.

Article on  
FSA Program

December Labor Review (Department of Labor) contains the first of three articles on the Farm Security program. The articles are based on FSA reports and unpublished material. The first is on labor under the FSA program. The other two will deal with the life of industrial and rural workers on FSA homesteads, and with cooperatives under the FSA program.



Farm-Home Talks,  
Week Jan. 5-10.

Among radio talks scheduled for the National Farm and Home Hour, week of January 5-10, are the following: January 6—American Agriculture Mobilizes, Yellow Cylinders of Concentrated Energy, by Leo Wadinski, chairman Marathon County (Wis.) USDA Defense Board, E. H. Malcheski, cheesemaker, Pulaski, and T. A. Carlson, Forest Products Laboratory; January 8—Gardens for Victory, Getting the Most Out of Your Garden Seeds, by Morse Salisbury and Josephine Hemphill, Office of Information; January 9—On the Food for Freedom Front, by John C. Baker, Office of Information.

Food Concerns  
Form Nutrition  
Foundation

New York Herald Tribune, December 29: Fifteen large food-manufacturing concerns in the United States have created a nutrition foundation with the idea of forming an independent organization to correlate scientific advances in study of nutrition, with dissemination of knowledge to the public on health-sustaining foods. The new foundation will be headed by Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The announcement indicated that almost \$1,000,000 had been subscribed by manufacturers to support the foundation. The next step will be the first cooperative research laboratory ever formed by the food industry. Details will be announced later.

G.B. Rubber Ban;  
Kok-Sagyz Plant  
As Rubber Source

AP report from London in Baltimore Sun, December 27: Confronted with loss of Malayan rubber supplies as a result of Japanese invasion, the British Ministry of Supply has prohibited further manufacture from rubber of a large number of articles and manufacture of many rubber articles was made subject to licensing by the ministry.

AP report from Columbus (Ohio) in Sun: American farmers may help solve a crude rubber shortage by cultivation of a rubber-growing dandelion. Discovered in Russia, the plant — kok-sagyz — is grown there exclusively now, but resembles the dandelion of the United States, says the National Chemurgic Council. Dr. Paul J. Kolachov, who investigated possibilities of the plant for the council, said it is readily acclimatized and can be cultivated in a wide variety of soils. Roots from which the latex is derived can be harvested at the end of the first or second year, yielding 150 to 200 pounds of crude rubber an acre.

New Plants  
Important  
in Wartime

Horticultural editor, New York Herald Tribune, December 21: Development of new plants assumes new importance with the United States at war. Formerly regarded by much of the horticultural trade as the product of the specialist, they now become of prime economic importance. A new snap bean, beet, potato, sweet corn, or cabbage easily may become the difference between a successful crop and failure. With food production on the upgrade as the result of all-out efforts by farmers under the leadership of the Department of Agriculture, quality as well as quantity becomes a national necessity rather than a gardening achievement. Gardeners should investigate the possibilities of the newer plants, after they have been thoroughly tested. There will be real need to conserve plant food, spray materials, and labor, and improved plants will aid this program.





